

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph [0006] of the original specification with the following amended paragraph:

[0006] Carlson, in U.S. Pat. No. 4,592,797 (Carlson '797) and U.S. Pat. No. 5,545,287 (Carlson '287), tried to respond to the need to have an apparatus that effectively finished a seam, but Carlson's finishing tools, simply put, did not work. As shown in FIG. 1 of Carlson '797, Carlson's finishing tool is overly complex. It includes a curved trowel member [(20)], a roller [(10)] that comprises a plurality of cylindrical, relatively loose fitting, washer members [(42--shown in FIG. 3)], and a box scraper (24) that is apparently manually operated by a scraper actuating means [(24)]. Due to the configuration of the roller, after rolling a section of a taped seam, the individual washers left individual impregnations in the compound and tape, which required tapers to follow the apparatus to smooth the finish. In addition, due to the loose fit of the washers, which became looser and looser as the apparatus was used, the individual washers would, in essence, "pinch" the tape and cause the tape to rip, again furthering the need for a taper to follow the tool to repair the ripped tape and to smooth the finish. Furthermore, the Carlson '797 apparatus was configured to finish a seam by first using a trowel, second a roller, and third a scraper box, in that order and only in that order. This design only permitted the scraper to go only as high up on the wall as the trowel could travel, thus leaving the upper section of the wall for a taper to manually finish. Many of the design problems in Carlson '797 were incorporated into Carlson '287 and consequently made the finishing tool in Carlson '287 impractical to use as well. As shown in FIG. 2, Carlson '287 is directed to a finishing tool [(50)], and includes the overly complex features shown in FIGS. 3, 3A, and 4 to finish a seam.